

The Death of King David, con-
sidered and applied.

I N A
S E R M O N

Preached on Occasion

Of the Univerfally Lamented Death

O F H I S

Late Majesty King G E O R G E the Second,

Who departed this Life, Oct. 25, 1760, in the Seventy-
Seventh Year of his Age, and Thirty-Fourth of
his Reign.

By J O S E P H P I T T S. *R*

Published at the Request of M A N Y who heard it.

L O N D O N :

Printed for J. BUCKLAND, at the Buck in Pater-
Noster-Row ; and E. DILLY, at the Rose and
Crown in the Poultry. M.DCC.LX.

[Price Six-pence.]



T H E

P R E F A C E.

WHEN I had delivered the following *very plain* Discourse, Several expressed a great Desire it might be published ; as what was very suitable to the Occasion. On Enquiry I found, Others were of the same Opinion ; and it was thought to be approved of by All who heard it. Upon this I advised with some Friends, to whose Judgment I cannot but pay a great Deference. These, on my repeating the Sermon to Them, encouraged me to comply with the Request which had been made to me.

The Parallel between David, as a King, and our late MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN, seems to me very natural and obvious, in all the Particulars I have mentioned in his Life, and Reign ; as well as Those concerning his Death in the Text. That the Subject was

ii The P R E F A C E.

not altogether unfuitable to the Occasion, appears from Several of my Brethren in the City having preach'd on it the same Day I did.

I am One of Those MANY, who had a sincere Affection for his late Majesty. What true Friend of Liberty had not? And should We not have been *inconsolable* at his Death, if it had not been for the promising Prospect We have in his SUCCESSOR? Who, We have abundant Ground to think, will tread in his Steps. My earnest Prayer to the God of all Grace and Wisdom for Him is, and shall be, that He may be wise as an Angel of God; and know how to go out, and come in before this great People, over whom the Lord hath set Him. That his Reign may be Very LONG, HAPPY, and GLORIOUS. That He may be an Instrument in the Hand of Divine Providence of perfecting that so very desirable Work, which the late King's Heart was so much set
on ;

The P R E F A C E. iii

on; and towards which He had made such considerable Advances: I mean a SAFE, HONOURABLE, and LASTING PEACE. That the Liberties of EUROPE may be established on a sure Basis; and, if it be the Will of God, on a Foundation which shall never be moved, or till Time shall be no more.

May We not look on the VERY important News which arrived the next Evening after the Interment of his Late Majesty, from the KING of PRUSSIA, as a good Omen! What imminent Danger hath that Prince *frequently* been in! In such a Situation that his Enemies have *exulted*; and too many of his best Friends been *ready to despair*. But in the Mount of Difficulties God appeared for Him. They surrounded Him on all Sides, and compassed him about like Bees; but in the Name of the LORD, and the Strength of the MOST HIGH, He hath destroyed MANY of Them. And as God hath delivered, and doth deliver, we may trust in Him that He will yet deliver.

HIS

iv The P R E F A C E.

HIS PRESENT MAJESTY hath declared, that He will pursue the same Measures which his WISE PREDECESSOR did. One of which was to assist the Prussian Monarch; and exert his utmost Efforts for the Support of the PROTESTANT RELIGION, (which is the Religion of JESUS) in Germany. And oh, that they may still be attended with the same Success! May the Throne which He hath lately ascended, be established in Righteousness, and upheld by Mercy. MAY ALL his Enemies *Abroad*, for it is to be hoped He hath None *at home*, be cloathed with Shame; but upon himself may the CROWN LONG, VERY LONG, flourish.

Ironmonger-Row,
Nov. 14, 1760.



J. P.

E R R A T A.

Page 23 in the note, for *Octofter*, read *October*.

Page 24 in the note, read, There are but Two who have reigned so long in England, [viz. Henry the Eighth, and Queen Elizabeth] since Henry the Sixth, who died in 1460, &c.

I CHRON. XXIX. 28. Former Part.

*And he died in a good old Age, full of Days,
Riches, and Honour.*

IN these Words we have,
First, *The Person spoken of, He, that
is, David the King.*

Secondly, *We are told that he died.*

Thirdly, *The Time of his Death, in a
good old Age.*

Fourthly, *Several very agreeable Circum-
stances which attended it. He was full of
Days, Riches, and Honour.*

When I have gone through these, I shall
conclude with some Application suitable to
the present *melancholy* Occasion.

I begin with the First, *The Person here
spoken of, David the King of Israel, Ver.
26, 27. Thus David the Son of Jesse reigned
over all Israel, and the Time that he reigned
over Israel was forty Years, &c.* As a private
Person, and before he was advanced to the
Throne, he was a very pious young Man;
feared the Lord above many, and from his
B Youth.

Youth. He was called by God himself, *a Man after his own Heart*^a. Though we are far from thinking that he was *perfect*. No Believer, we read of in Scripture, was: But every one of them were defective even in that very Grace, which they were most eminent and renowned for. *Abraham*, tho' so strong in Faith, fell into Unbelief more than once, thro' a Fear of Man; and persuaded *Sarah* his Wife to join with him in a known Falshood, and say she was his Sister^b. *Moses*, tho' *very meek above all the Men which were upon the Face of the Earth*^c, yet we find was once in such a Passion, and *spoke so unadvisedly with his Lips*, that he was kept out of *Canaan* for it; and God would not permit him to go over *Jordan*, and see that good Land, notwithstanding he so earnestly desired it^d. And is not *Job* recorded in Scripture, as the most patient Person that ever lived? We have heard and read of his Patience: And it will be spoke of throughout all Generations. And yet, will any one undertake to defend all that he said in the Dispute between him and his three Friends? or vindicate him, when *he cursed the Day of his Birth*^e? And oh! in what a shocking Manner did *David* fall, in the Matter of *Uriah the Hittite*! Did he not

^a Acts xiii. 22.

&c.

^c Numb. xii. 3.

—12. and Deut. iii. 23—27.

^b Gen. xii. 10, &c. Chap. xx. 1,^d See Chap. xx. 10.^e Job iii.

thereby,

thereby, as it were, break his Bones? and it was a considerable Time before they were set again, and God made him to rejoice ^f.

But, he is in our Text to be considered as a King. God, who is KING of KINGS, and LORD of LORDS, placed him in the Throne; and he reigned over all Israel. And he was a great and renowned Prince indeed.

1. A very good King.
2. A very wise Prince.
3. Courageous and valiant.
4. Just. He executed Judgment to all his People.
5. A merciful King.
6. A Prince of great Tendernefs and Compassion.
7. Lastly, A Person of singular Patience.

1. *David was a very good King.* I mean one who loved his Subjects; studied their Happiness; and was properly the Father of his People. Kings should be like good Shepherds; take care of, feed and guide their Flocks. Such an one David was. *He, i. e. God chose David his Servant; and brought him to feed Jacob his People, and Israel his Inheritance. So he fed them according to the Integrity of his Heart; and guided them by the Skilfulness of his Hands* ^g.

2. *David was a very wise King.* None who read the History of him, can doubt of

^f Psalm li.

^g Psal. lxxviii. 70.—72.

this. Many, we may suppose, envied him, as well as Saul. But they could lay nothing to his charge. Or tho' they might accuse him, as he complains, yet it was falsely, and they could prove nothing against him. *He behaved himself wisely in all his Ways*; and no wonder, for we are told, *the Lord was with him*^h. And we are further informed, *that when the Princes of the Philistines went forth, David behaved himself more wisely than all the Servants of Saul, so that his Name was much set by*ⁱ.

3. *He was a courageous valiant Prince; a Man of Valour.* This he gave many signal Proofs of, both before and after he came to the Crown. It was a very just Character which one of Saul's Servants gave of David to him, when he wanted some proper Person to be with him, who by playing on the Harp, which he was very skilful in, might divert his Thoughts, and the evil Spirit which troubled him, depart from him. *I have seen a Son of Jesse the Bethlehemite, that is cunning in playing, and a mighty valiant Man, and a Man of War, and prudent in Matters*^k. How many Battles did he fight, and win, as a General, and as a King, after he had engaged with, and overcome *the Philistine Champion Goliath*^l? He subdued the Philistines, the avowed Enemies of Is-

^h 1 Sam. xviii. 14.
xvi. 18.

ⁱ Verse 30.
^l Chap. xvii.

^k 1 Sam.

rael; the Moabites, the Ammonites, and many others: The Lord preserving and succeeding him whithersoever he went^m.

4. *David was a just Prince. He executed Judgment and Justice to all his Peopleⁿ.* Whenever any came to him for Justice, they were sure of having it. It was a vile Slander with which *Absalom* endeavoured to alienate the Affections of the People from the King his Father, when he was meditating a Rebellion, and designed to dethrone him at least, and I suppose, to murder him. It was, I say, a vile Slander, when he represented him as very careless and negligent about public Affairs, and the Concerns of his Subjects. *He stood in the Way of the Gate, (the Place of Judicature) and when any Man that had a Controversy came to the King for Judgment, he said to him, See thy Matters are good and right; but there is no Man deputed of the King to hear thee^o.* And surely, none but very weak Persons could be deceived by him, when the contrary was so well known to All that ever had any Occasion to apply to him for Justice.

5. *David was a very merciful Prince.* The Kings of Israel were noted among their Neighbour-States and Kingdoms for this. When Benhadad King of Syria on the Defeat of his vast Army, by so very small a Number of the Children of Israel, was for-

^m 2 Sam. viii.

ⁿ Verse 15.

^o 2 Sam. xv. 2, 3.

ced to flee into an inner Chamber to hide himself ; his Servants said to him, *Behold now, we have heard that the Kings of the house of Israel are merciful Kings*^p. God, who is Sovereign of the Universe, is merciful ; and Princes, who are his Vice-gerents, and Representatives on Earth, should be like Him.

6. *He was a Prince of great Tendernefs and Compassion.* He pitied his Subjects when in Distress. We have a very remarkable Instance of this in the Pestilence which was sent in his Reign, and indeed for his Sin, in numbring the People. *And David spake to the Lord, when he saw the Angel that smote the People, and said, Lo, I have sinned, and I have done wickedly : But these Sheep, what have they done ? Let thine Hand, I pray thee be against me, and against my Father's House*^q. And so affectionate a Parent as he was, could not but be tender towards his Subjects, whom he considered as Children.

7. And lastly, *David was a Person of singular Patience ; ready to bear with, and forgive Injuries.* Saul sought his Life ; and yet he would not kill him when he had it in his Power ; nor suffer others to do it, when they desired his Leave^r. This melted even Saul into Tears, when he heard of it^s. And

^p 1 Kings xx. 31.
ⁱ Sam. xxiv. 3.—7.
xxvi. 7, &c.

^q 2 Sam. xviv. 17.
^s Verse 16. See also Chap.

^r See

how very provoking must it be, when *Shimei* insulted him in so very abusive, as well as cruel a Manner, and cursed him, throwing Stones and Dust at him, as he was fleeing from Jerusalem for fear of Absalom ? And yet *David* would not let *Abishai* go, and take off the Head of that dead Dog, as he called him, which he desired Permission to do^u. And afterwards when the Rebellion was crushed, and *Shimei* came, and fell down before *David*, and desired him to forgive his Crime, he spared his Life at that Time^x. Tho' when giving his last Charge to his Son *Solomon*, he bid him keep a strict Eye on him, and watch him narrowly as a very dangerous Person ; and if he ever gave him the least Occasion, to put him to Death^y.

Secondly, *We are informed in the Text, that this great and good King died.* Persons, you know, are said to die, when the Union between the Soul and Body is dissolved ; *the one returning to the Earth as it was, or the Ground out of which it was taken ; and the other to God who gave it^z.* 'Tis the Body only which dies. This sees Corruption, and is reduced to Dust, but the Soul being a Spirit, is immortal. It is of a quite different Nature from the Body, which is Matter. It is immaterial ; of a spiritual Nature ; the Breath of God : And can, and will subsist in

^t See 2 Sam. xvi. 5, &c.
xix. 16, &c.

^u Verse 9, &c.
^y 1 Kings ii. 8, 9.

^x Chap.
^z Eccles. xii. 7.

a State of Separation from it. *The Lord God formed Man, that is his Body, of the Dust of the Ground, and breathed into his Nostrils the Breath of Life : And Man became a living Soul*^a. When Lazarus the Beggar died, *i. e.* his Body, we are told, *he, i. e.* his Soul, *was carried by the Angels into Abraham's Bosom : The rich Man also died, and was buried. And in Hell he lift up his Eyes, being in Torment*^b.

And we see that All die. Good and Bad ; or the Righteous and the Wicked : High and Low ; Rich and Poor ; Kings and Subjects ; Wise and Foolish ; the most Useful, as well the Useless ; or those who have not Power, or Inclination to be serviceable in their Generation. Death spares None when it hath received a Commission to cut them down ; whether Young or Old ; Infants of Days, or those who are bowed down with the Weight of Years, and groan under the Infirmities of old Age. The strongest Men fall when Death strikes, as soon as the Weakest. No one can deliver himself, or others from it, when the Time is come that they must die. Neither Prayers nor Tears will be of any avail, or in the least move it. Nothing can prevail with it to stay its Hand, or defer the Blow, one Moment. Here I would observe,

^a Gen. ii. 7.

^b Luke xvi. 22, 23.

1. *This is what is appointed to all Men.*
2. *Death is the Fruit or Consequence of Sin.*
3. *It is a great Mercy to the Godly that they must die.* But,

4. *When the Wicked die, there is an End of all their Pleasure and Joy, what they called and accounted Happiness; and they must be inconceivably miserable to all Eternity.*

1. *Death is what is appointed to all Men. It is appointed to Men once to die^c. There is no Man that liveth, who shall not see Death. The Grave is the House appointed for all Living^d. The Time, Place; and Manner of our Death, every particular Circumstance relating to it, are all appointed by God^e.*

2. *Death is the Fruit, or Consequence of Sin.* This introduced, or paved the Way for That into our World. What can be more full and express as to this, than that of the Apostle Paul? *By one Man, (whom all allow to be Adam) Sin entred into the World, and Death by Sin; and so Death passed upon all Men, for that all have sinned^f.* If we had not sinned, we should never have died; but have been immortal as the holy Angels are, and lived for ever. God did not make Man mortal. It was Sin that did it.

3. *It is a great Mercy to the Godly that they must die.* They think so, and would not live here always. And this, not only be-

^c Heb. ix. 27.
Chap. vii. 1. and xiv. 5.

^d Job xxx. 23.
^f Rom. v. 12.

^e See

a State of Separation from it. *The Lord God formed Man, that is his Body, of the Dust of the Ground, and breathed into his Nostrils the Breath of Life : And Man became a living Soul*^a. When Lazarus the Beggar died, *i. e.* his Body, we are told, *he, i. e.* his Soul, *was carried by the Angels into Abraham's Bosom : The rich Man also died, and was buried. And in Hell he lift up his Eyes, being in Torment*^b.

And we see that All die. Good and Bad ; or the Righteous and the Wicked : High and Low ; Rich and Poor ; Kings and Subjects ; Wise and Foolish ; the most Useful, as well the Useless ; or those who have not Power, or Inclination to be serviceable in their Generation. Death spares None when it hath received a Commission to cut them down ; whether Young or Old ; Infants of Days, or those who are bowed down with the Weight of Years, and groan under the Infirmities of old Age. The strongest Men fall when Death strikes, as soon as the Weakest. No one can deliver himself, or others from it, when the Time is come that they must die. Neither Prayers nor Tears will be of any avail, or in the least move it. Nothing can prevail with it to stay its Hand, or defer the Blow, one Moment. Here I would observe,

^a Gen. ii. 7.^b Luke xvi. 22, 23.

1. *This is what is appointed to all Men.*
2. *Death is the Fruit or Consequence of Sin.*
3. *It is a great Mercy to the Godly that they must die. But,*
4. *When the Wicked die, there is an End of all their Pleasure and Joy, what they called and accounted Happiness; and they must be inconceivably miserable to all Eternity.*

1. *Death is what is appointed to all Men. It is appointed to Men once to die^c. There is no Man that liveth, who shall not see Death. The Grave is the House appointed for all Living^d. The Time, Place; and Manner of our Death, every particular Circumstance relating to it, are all appointed by God^e.*

2. *Death is the Fruit, or Consequence of Sin.* This introduced, or paved the Way for That into our World. What can be more full and express as to this, than that of the Apostle Paul? *By one Man, (whom all allow to be Adam) Sin entred into the World, and Death by Sin; and so Death passed upon all Men, for that all have sinned^f.* If we had not sinned, we should never have died; but have been immortal as the holy Angels are, and lived for ever. God did not make Man mortal. It was Sin that did it.

3. *It is a great Mercy to the Godly that they must die.* They think so; and would not live here always. And this, not only be-

^c Heb. ix. 27.
Chap. vii. 1. and xiv. 5.

^d Job xxx. 23.
^f Rom. v. 12.

^e See

cause it is a troublesome, but a sinful World. Sin makes them more weary of this Life, than all the Afflictions they meet with^s. But then I must add,

4. *When the Wicked die, there is an End of all their Pleasure and Joy, what they called and accounted Happiness; and they must be inconceivably miserable to all Eternity. The Wicked, all who die in their Sins, in Impenitence and Unbelief, shall be turned into Hell^h. Sent away into everlasting Punishment: Be order'd by the Judge, to depart from him into that Fire, which was prepared for the Devil, and his Angelsⁱ. A Fire which will never be quenched; but the Breath of the Lord, or the Fury of a justly provoked God, will continue blowing up the Flame, and increasing the Heat for ever^k.*

The next Thing observable in the Words is,

Thirdly, *The Time of David's Death; in a good Old Age. He was now Seventy^l. The Age of Man in Moses's Time. For he tells us, the Days of our Years are three-score Years and ten^m. So Abraham, who was above an hundred Years older than*

^s Job vii. 16.

^h Psal. ix. 17.

ⁱ Matt. xxv. 41.

^k Mark ix. 44.

^l He was thirty Years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty Years. In Hebron he reigned over Judah seven Years, and six Months; and in Jerusalem he reigned thirty and three Years over all Israel and Judah, 2 Sam. v. 4, 5.

^m Psal. xc. 10. The Title

of which Psalm is, A Prayer of Moses, the Man of God.

David,

David, is said to die in a good old Age ⁿ.
And *Gideon* also ^o.

1. *This is not to be understood merely that he was an aged Person, or far advanced in Years, when he died.* If so, old Sinners might be said to die in a good old Age; which I do not find they ever are in Scripture. No, we are sure, *though they live to be an hundred Years old, they are and shall be accursed* ^p.
But,

2. *He had lived to good Purpose, a very useful Life.* He had done many great and good Things in his Day; and *served his Generation according to the Will of God* ^q. He had made the Welfare of Israel his Study, and rejoiced in their Prosperity. He had them much in his Thoughts, and bore them on his Heart. And we may be assured, in Return for this, he had the Prayers of all his faithful Subjects; of every one that truly feared God, and was concerned to promote his Glory.

Fourthly, *We are to consider several very agreeable Circumstances here mentioned, which the Death of this excellent Prince was attended with.* He was full of Days, Riches, and Honour.

1. *When David died, he was full of Days.* Satisfied with Life; having lived as long as God thought fit he should; and done

ⁿ Gen. xxv. 7, 8.
lxv. 20.

^o Judges viii. 32.
^q Acts xiii. 36.

^p Isai.

all the Work He designed him for, or had appointed him to do. God had told him, that he should not build him an House, as he had fully intended, and greatly desired to do : But his Son Solomon should do it ^r. However, he had the Satisfaction to live to make all necessary Preparations for it : And to see how ready his People were to that good Work ; and that they contributed very chearfully and liberally towards it ^s. And also to see a wise Son so well qualified to succeed him, settled on the Throne ; and so likely to be established in it.

2. *David died full of Riches* He had acquired vast, prodigious Wealth indeed. Not with a Design to make a God of it, as Many do. No, he knew better, as well as Job, than to *trust in uncertain Riches* ^t. Which cannot profit in the Day of Wrath ; or save a Soul from Death ^u. He did not make Gold his Hope ; or say to fine Gold, thou art my Confidence ^x.—Not by oppressing his Subjects with burdensome Taxes, and thereby impoverishing them, in order to encrease his own Wealth, and Power.—But by the Spoils which he took in Battle from his and their Enemies, when he had conquered them. Thus, when he had taken *Rabbah*, the Metropolis, the capital City of the Children of Ammon, the Royal City,

^r 1 Chron. xxviii. 2.—6.

^s 1 Chron. xxix. 6, &c.

^t 1 Tim. vi. 17.

^u Prov. xi. 4.

^x Job xxxi. 24.

it is said, *He brought forth the Spoil of it in great Abundance* ^y. And he got much Riches also by the many great Presents which were made him by some Princes who were in Alliance with him; and the Tribute paid him by Others whom he had subdued. *The Syrians, Moabites, Ammonites, Philistines, &c* ^z.

All these very great Riches he left to his Son and Successor, *Solomon*. Not only to support his Government with a proper Dignity and Grandeur; but principally to build a Temple for the Lord God of Israel to dwell in; where He might be worshipped and served by his People, in the Way and Manner which He had appointed. *This was to be exceedingly magnificent, according to the Pattern which the Lord gave him, or made him to understand in Writing, by his Hand upon him* ^z. And when it was finished, it was the most grand and noble Structure in all the World. *Of Fame, and of Glory, throughout all Countries.*

3. And lastly, *When David died, he was full of Honour*; in the greatest Reputation; leaving his People in a very flourishing Condition. And he himself greatly loved, and honoured by them; and respected by neighbouring Princes, and Kingdoms; who condoled with, as well as congratulated his Son, on his succeeding so renowned a Potentate

^y 2 Sam. xii. 30. ^z See Chap. viii. 6, &c. ^a See 1 Chron. xxii. 6. Chap. xxviii. 11, 12, 19.

as *David* was. Particularly *Hiram*, King of *Tyre*, sent a very respectful and pious Letter to *Solomon*, who had notified the Death of *David* to him, and his Accession to the Throne; and also acquainted him with his Design to build an House unto the Lord. And we are told, *Hiram was ever a Lover of David*^b.

Thus we have briefly gone over the several Heads contained in our Text. What remains now is to make some suitable Improvement of the Subject.

And I am persuaded, most of you have already in your Thoughts, been applying a great Part of what I have delivered, to that MOST EXCELLENT PRINCE, his late Majesty KING GEORGE THE SECOND; whose sudden, tho' not altogether unexpected Death, was the Occasion of my discoursing on these Words, at this Time. And may not what the Text says of *David*, be fitly applied to Him? *He died in a good old Age; full of Days, Riches, and Honour*. I suppose there are few, if any true Britons, but what will allow, He was a GREAT Prince, and a VERY GOOD KING. The BEST I believe in the World. In what Period of Time, if it could have been left to our own Option, should we have chosen to live, rather than that in which our Lot is cast, and since the Accession of the present Royal Family to

^b See 1 Kings v. 1, &c.

the Throne of these Kingdoms? Oh! how much are we indebted to good KING WILLIAM the THIRD, of GLORIOUS and IMMORTAL MEMORY, for that INVALUABLE LEGACY which he bequeathed Us; in procuring an Act of Parliament, for settling the Crown in the ILLUSTRIOUS HOUSE OF HANOVER, in Case of Queen Anne's Demise without Issue! This Legacy was (if I may be allowed the Expression) paid us, by a kind Providence, as soon as it became due. I mean on the GLORIOUS FIRST OF AUGUST, 1714. A Day never to be forgotten by *English Men*, and especially *Protestant Dissenters*; it being the very Day on which THE VILE SCHISM-BILL was to have taken Place. By which iniquitous Act we were to have been deprived of the Right of educating our own Children. But God was graciously pleased to interpose, blasted their wicked Scheme, and rendered their Designs abortive, by the *seasonable Remove of one single Person*; who I cannot but think was greatly abused, and imposed on by those who were about Her. Under his late Majesty, (as well as his Royal Father, GEORGE THE FIRST,) we enjoyed our Privileges both Civil and Religious. *We sat every Man under his Vine, and under his Fig-tree, and there was none to make us afraid.*

And as for his Wisdom, I think none can call it in question. What wise Plans were laid by Him,

Him, and his Council, for preserving our Liberty, as well as of Europe in general, against the common Enemy of it? That ambitious and most perfidious Tyrant, the French King, or those under whose Management he is ; who have been long aiming at, and aspiring after *Universal Monarchy* ! And what Wisdom, as well as Affection for his People, appeared in the Provision He made for our Security and Tranquillity, on the Death of the late Prince of Wales ; if God should think fit to remove Him by Death, before the then Heir apparent, his present Majesty, should have arrived to a proper Age for taking the Reins of Government into his own Hands !

His Courage and Valour the French were Witnesses to, when but a young Person, He fought so bravely under the Duke of Marlborough. His Horse being shot under him, in the Battle of *Oudenard*, He led on the Troops under his Command on Foot, till the Enemy was entirely routed ; and those who were not killed, or taken Prisoners, fled for their Lives with the utmost Precipitation. And even since He became our Sovereign, He behaved with his wonted Courage and Intrepidity, in the Battle at *Dettingen*. When *the French*, tho' so much Superior to our Troops in Numbers, were soon put to Flight. Nor do I in the least doubt, but that if those *Miscreants* in the late Rebellion, had come forward,

forward, near our Capital, as they intended, his Majesty would have marched out against them at the Head of his Forces and Friends; many Thousands of whom would, I am fully persuaded, have ventured their Lives in the Defence of his Royal Person; and lived or died with Him.

And did He ever give one of his Subjects any Reason to complain of *the least Act of Injustice, or so much as the Appearance of it?* Might He not have appealed to them, as *Samuel* at the End of his Administration or Government, did to the People of Israel? *Whose Ox have I taken? or whose Ass have I taken? or whom have I defrauded?* And must we not all have answered, as they did? *Thou hast not defrauded, nor OPPRESSED us; neither hast thou taken aught of any Man's Hand^c.* Did he ever invade any of our Rights? or show the least Inclination towards it? No; but on the contrary, we were in the full Possession of them. Nor, during his long Reign, would he suffer any one to be persecuted for the Sake of Conscience.

And how very merciful did He show himself in many Instances! Need I mention any other than when the last most unnatural Rebellion was happily suppressed, by the Blessing of God on his Majesty's Arms, under the Command of the *Duke of Cumberland*, at the Battle of *Culloden*; when so many of those

^c 1 Sam. xii. 3, 4.

vile Wretches were taken Prisoners? How few of them comparatively, were made Examples of, and punished as they deserved? It is commonly, and I believe truly said, that it was with some Reluctance his late Majesty ever signed a Dead-Warrant when brought to him, for the Execution of Criminals, who had been convicted and condemned. Tho', at the same Time, He would have Justice take Place, even on Persons of the highest Rank, when found guilty of atrocious Crimes; and no favourable Circumstances appeared to recommend them to Mercy. Of which we have a very recent Instance in a late Lord; who having been unanimously found guilty by his Peers of wilful Murder, *was order'd to be executed in the same Manner, and at the same Place, as common Murderers, and other capital Offenders are*^d.

And then, with *what Tendernefs* was He wont to express himself in his Speeches to the Parliament, when the Exigencies of the State made any additional Burdens on his Subjects necessary?

^d Robert Earl Ferrers. He was tried by the House of Lords in Westminster-Hall, for the Murder of Mr. John Johnson his Steward, and unanimously found Guilty by them; and Sentence of Death past on him by the Lord-Keeper Henley, appointed High-Steward on that solemn Occasion, April 18. And on May the 5th was conveyed from the Tower through the City to Tyburn, and there hanged. And, as the Law directs in such Cases, his Body was carried to Surgeons-Hall. Where, after it had been in Part dissected, it was exposed to public View in the Theatre for three Days, and seen by Thousands. No Mitigation of the Sentence because he was a Peer of the Realm.

necessary? *He plainly felt for, and with his People.* And indeed, so affectionate a Parent, as He was well known to be, could not but pity his People when in any Distress.

His Patience likewise he many a Time gave evident Proofs of, as might be made appear, when He was tried in a very remarkable Manner. And this, tho' there was no small Degree of Warmth in his Natural Temper, as He himself well knew. And I never heard that He acted unbecoming a good King, when deprived of so many near Relations; His beloved Consort, Queen CAROLINE; and several of his Children, who were so dear to Him. Affected He was, and could not but be; and indeed ought to be; but calm under it, and resigned to the Will of God.

But, with all these truly amiable Qualities, He is removed from us. Tho', Blessed be God, it may be said of Him, as of *King David* in the Text, that *he died in a good old Age*. A long, and a very useful Life *His* was *.

And *He was full of Days*. We cannot but suppose, it would have been a very great Pleasure to Him, to have lived to see an End
put

* His late Majesty was born October 30 (Old Stile) 1683. He succeeded King George the First, June 11, 1727, being then in the forty-fourth Year of his Age. And died October 25, 1760. Having reigned thirty and three Years, and four Months: And had He lived a Fortnight and two Days longer, He would have been seventy-seven Years of Age. About seven Years older than David was when he died.

put to the present very expensive and destructive, tho' necessary War ; and to have brought about a safe and honourable Peace. To have left his People in perfect Peace and Security. Could He have effected this, I am persuaded, He would have been willing to die. However, it must be no small Satisfaction to Him, that, thro' the Divine Blessing on our Measures and Arms, Matters were brought into so fair a Way towards it; that our Enemies were so much impoverished and weaken'd, by *our repeated Successes*, both by Sea and Land ; and that Riches were flowing in upon the Nation in so great Abundance, by the amazing Increase of our Trade ; so that the like was never known in a Time of War ; if of the most profound and universal Peace.

And how full of Honour hath his Reign, especially the latter Part of it, been? What a Glorious Figure will KING GEORGE THE SECOND make in History? Posterity will scarce believe the Truth of what we know to be Facts. That Louisburgh, which the French thought impregnable, should be taken one Year; Crown-Point, Niagara, and

died. There hath but one reigned so long in England, viz. Queen Elizabeth, since Edward the Fourth ; who came to the Crown in 1460, three hundred Years ago. Unless you reckon Charles the Second's Reign from the Day his Father was beheaded, Jan. 30, 1649. and include the several Years he was in Exile, till the Restoration, May 29, 1660, the very Day after his late Majesty's Father, King George the First was born.

other

other Forts, together with *Quebec*, the *next*; and, to crown all, *Montreal*, the *third*. And the last, without firing a Gun, or the Loss of a single Life. So that the Enemy are, in a Manner, driven out of that Part of the World; and they who were for grasping All *there*, have lost, or we may hope will soon lose, All: As they have done in *Africa*; and we have Reason to think, it is much the same with them in *Asia*, or the *East-Indies*.

What a constant and intire Harmony between the King and Parliament!—How united the People against the common Enemy! knit together as one Man!—With what Readiness and Chearfulness the vast (not to say Immense) Supplies granted! and with what Ease raised! to the Astonishment of most at Home, and of all Abroad! which must dishearten our Enemies; as well as greatly encourage our Allies; who are engaged in the Defence of the same good Cause with us, *viz.* of Religion and Liberty.

But alas! He is taken from us. An awful Stroke indeed! tho', blessed be God, mixed with much Mercy too. Well, what Improvement should we make of such a Dispensation? It speaks with a very loud Voice; *May we hear the Rod, and Him who hath appointed it*^f.

1. *Let us mourn for his Death.* Who can refrain from Tears, to think that GEORGE

^f Mic. vi. 9.

the Great, the Good, is gone ! 'Tis a very humbling Providence, especially at this Juncture ; and calls for Sorrow. May not every one of his Subjects say, MY FATHER, MY FATHER !

2. *Let us be humbled for our Sins, and the Sins of the Nation, which have provoked the Lord to Anger.* God is come out of his Place against us, and stretching out his Hand over us. Let us see it, and humble ourselves under it.

3. *We have great Reason to be very thankful, that He was not taken from us sooner, several Years ago ;* when his Death might have been attended with such Consequences, as the Thoughts of may make us tremble. What a singular Mercy that he was spared so long ! How highly were we favoured, during the whole of his auspicious Reign !

4. *Let us bless God that his Capacities for Government were continued to the last Day and Hour of his Life, and that he had so very easy a Dissolution.*

5. *Let us All remember that We must die ; and how soon, and how suddenly this may be, we know not.* It behoves us therefore to endeavour, thro' Grace, to be always ready. Let us not rest satisfied without an Interest in CHRIST ; 'till we have been enabled to apply by Faith to his most precious Blood, and been thereby cleansed from all Sin ; to lay hold of his perfect and everlasting Righteousness,

ness, and have thereupon been justified in the Sight of God. 'Till we have been born again of Water, and of the Spirit ; been renewed in the Spirit of our Mind, and by the Divine Spirit made holy in Heart, Lip, and Life, or sanctified wholly. Then, let Death come whenever it will, we may bid it welcome ; and shall immediately enter into the Joy of our Lord. We enjoyed many great Privileges under our late most gracious Sovereign's mild and gentle, as well as just Government, of which, and all our other Talents, we must give an Account.

6. And lastly, *Let us pray earnestly for his Successor, GEORGE THE THIRD* ; whose Accession to the Throne of his Royal Ancestors, hath been with the universal Acclamations of his People. That God would protect his Person, direct and guide his Councils, and prosper his Administration. That his Reign may be LONG and GLORIOUS as his Predecessor's was ; and under him *we may lead a quiet and peaceable Life, in all Godliness and Honesty.* I shall conclude with Part of the Seventy-second Psalm, which is entitled a Psalm for Solomon. *He shall judge the Poor of the People ; he shall save the Children of the Needy ; and he shall break in Pieces the Oppressor. In his Days shall the Righteous flourish, and Abundance of Peace so long as the Moon endureth. He shall have dominion also from Sea to Sea ; and from the River to the Ends*
of

of the Earth. They that dwell in the Wilderness shall bow before him; and his Enemies shall lick the Dust. And he shall live; and to him shall be given of the Gold of Sheba; Prayer also shall be made for him; and daily shall he be praised. His Name shall endure for ever; his Name shall be continued as long as the Sun; and Men shall be blessed in Him; all Nations shall call him Blessed. Amen, and Amen.



THE END.

Books Printed for, and Sold by J. BUCKLAND,
at the Buck in Pater-Noster-Row.

I. **A** Profession of Faith, argued from the Priesthood of CHRIST, in a Sermon preached at a Meeting of Ministers at Ipswich. The Second Edition. Price 4d.

II. The right Way of Preaching Christ, opened and enforced; in a Sermon preached at a Meeting of Ministers at Chelmsford. Price 6d.

III. A Farewel Sermon, preached at Braintree. Price 6d.

IV. Submission with Praise to God, on the Death of hopeful Children: A Sermon on Occasion of the Death of his only Son. Price 6d.

V. Turning to God, an effectual Way of escaping threatened Judgments; a Sermon on a Publick Fast. The Second Edition. Price 6d.

All the above by the Rev. Mr. PITTS.

Just Published,

I. LIVING CHRISTIANITY DELINEATED; in the DIARIES and LETTERS of two eminently pious Persons lately deceased, viz. Mr. Hugh Bryan, and Mrs. Mary Hutson: Both of South-Carolina; with a Preface by the Rev. Mr. Conder, and the Rev. Mr. Gibbons. Price 2s.

2. Darracot's Scripture Marks of Salvation, drawn up to help Christians, to know the true State of their Souls. The Fourth Edition. Price bound 9d. or stitch'd 6d. With large Allowance to those who buy a Number to give away.

3. Contemplations on the Ocean, Harvest, Sicknefs, and the last Judgment; in a Series of Letters to a Friend, Vol. I. The Second Edition corrected. Price bound 2s. 6d.

The Reverend Mr. Hervey, in his Theron and Aspasio, Vol. III. Letter 9. makes the following Remark. 'Should the Reader desire to see this Subject more largely opened and more fully improved, I would refer him to Contemplations on the Ocean, lately published by my ingenious and pious Friend Mr. Pearfall; in which a refined Fancy, and delicate Philosophy, compose a Chaplet for Evangelical Divinity, uniting some of their beautiful and fragrant Flowers to adorn the Doctrine of God our Saviour.—To quicken and refresh the Spirits of the People.—To invite and win the Hearts of the Disobedient.'

4. Con-

Books Printed for J. BUCKLAND.

4. Contemplations on Butterflies, on the Full Moon, and in a Walk through a Wood ; in a Series of Letters to several Friends. By Richard Pearfall. Vol. II. Price bound 3s. 6d.

————— Wisdom's self

Oft seeks to sweet retired Solitude,
Where, with her best Nurse, Contemplation,
She plumes her Feathers, and lets go her Wings ;
That in the various Bustle of Mankind,

We're all too ruff'd, and sometimes impair'd. Milton.

5. Prayers compos'd for the Use and Imitation of Children ; ; suited to their different Ages and their various Occasions : Together with Instructions to Youth in the Duty of Prayer, drawn up by Way of Question and Answer, and a serious Address to them on that Subject. The Sixth Edition, 12mo. Price 10d.

6. Discourses on the Love of God, and the Use and Abuse of the Passions in Religion ; with a devout Meditation annexed to each Discourse. The Fifth Edition, 12mo. Price 2s.

7. A short View of the whole Scripture History ; with a Continuation of the Jewish Affairs from the End of the Old Testament to the Time of Christ. Illustrated with various Remarks on the Laws, Governments, Sects, Customs and Writings of the Jews ; and adorned with Figures. The Third Edition, 12mo. Price 3s.

8. An humble Attempt towards the Revival of Practical Religion among Christians, and particularly the Protestant Dissenters, by a serious Address to Ministers and People, in some occasional Discourses. The Third Edition, 12mo. Price 2s.

9. The Holiness of Times, Places, and People, under the Jewish and Christian Dispensations ; considered and compared in several Discourses, on the Sabbath, the Temple, Churches, Meeting-houses, &c. 12mo. Price 1s. 6d.

10. The Glory of Christ as God Man, displayed in three Discourses, (*viz.*) Discourse 1. A Survey of the visible Appearances of Christ as God, before his Incarnation, with some Observations on the Texts of the old Testament applied to Christ. Discourse 2. An Enquiry into the extensive Powers of the human Nature of Christ, in its present glorified State ; with several Testimonies annexed. Discourse 3. An Argument tracing out the early Existence of the Human Soul of Christ, even before the Creation of the World : With an Appendix, containing an Abridgement of Dr. Thomas Goodwin's Discourse of the Glories and Royalties of Christ in his Works, in Folio, Vol. II. Book III. 8vo. Price 4s.

